

Appln. No. 10/618,783

Attorney Docket No. 10970-132

II. Remarks

Reconsideration and re-examination of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is herein respectfully requested.

After entering this amendment, claims 2-10 and 12-21 remain pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

The undersigned acknowledges the Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 5, 7, 15 and 17, if rewritten into independent form and to include all of the limitations of any base claims. Accordingly, claims 5, 7 and 15 have been rewritten into independent form and including all of the limitations of their base claims. Since a dependent claim necessarily includes all of the limitations of its base claim, the amendments to claims 5, 7 and 15 are non-narrowing amendments and should be properly construed as such.

In view of the above, it is submitted that these claims are allowable and such action is requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and § 103(a)

Claims 1-3, 6, 8-13, 16 and 18-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,315,539, to Yutronkie et al. ("Yutronkie").

Claims 4 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yutronkie in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,684,101 to Wagner et al. ("Wagner").

The dependencies of the above-referenced claims have been amended to depend, either directly or indirectly, from one of allowable claims 5 or 15.

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Accordingly, it is submitted that these dependent claims are allowable at least for the same reason as

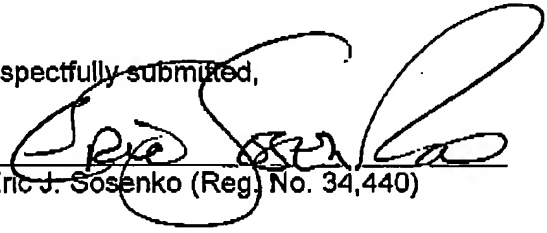
Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present form of the claims are patentably distinguishable over the art of record and that this application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

October 21, 2005

Date


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Attachment: None